

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 2 and 5. These sheets, which include Figs. 2 and 5, replace the original sheets including Figs. 2 and 5. In Fig. 2 the reference numerals 30, 40 and 42 have been added, and in Fig. 5 the reference numeral 40 has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (2)

REMARKS

The office action of July 31, 2006, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Lee.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has canceled claims 2 and 4-7, and amended claims 1 and 9.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner. Relative to claim 8, the phrase "on or in" means that the stiffening web is provided either on the supporting plate or in the supporting plate. Regarding the term "suction bell", this is a term known in the art. The term was translated from the German "Absaugglocke". Applicant has attached the translation from

the translation web site www.dict.cc. Also, the term suction bell can be found by simply searching the internet. It basically forms the inlet end of a suction device. Reference is also made to U.S. Patent No. 6,135,267, which uses the term "suction bell".

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the reference.

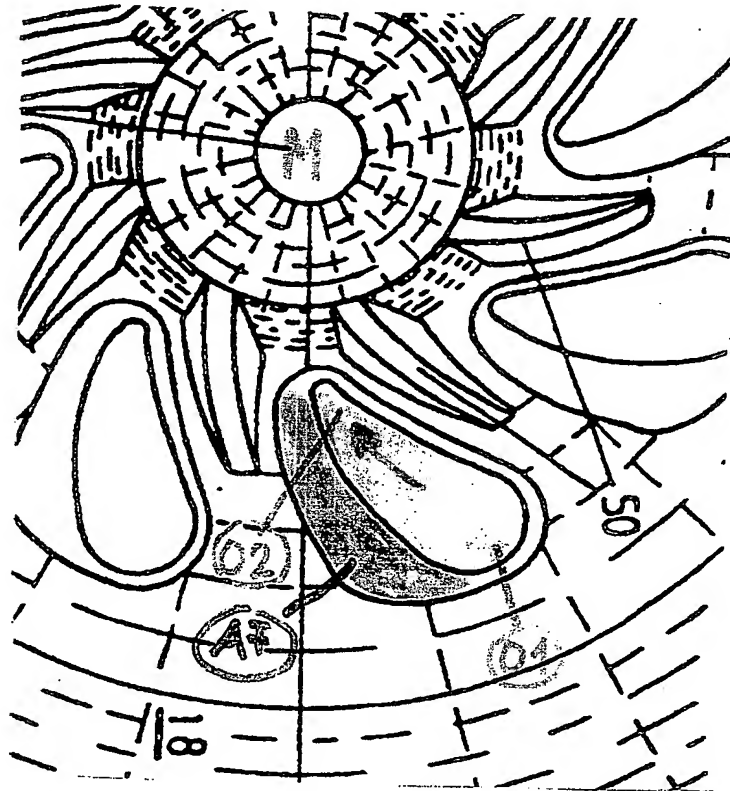
Turning now to the reference, it can be seen that the patent to Lee discloses a grinding wheel for use in a grinding apparatus. The grinding wheel has discharge holes 25 that work together with a dust removal device for removing dust. The holes 25 do not have specially formed edge regions and thus there are no aerodynamically favorable formed dust suction openings for optimizing the airflow with the grinding dust.

That the grinding plate of Lee does not have aerodynamic dust openings can be seen in Figs. 1 and 2 of Lee. "25" indicates the

[illegible]

The present invention has the object of providing an improved grinding machine with better facility for removing dust. This is accomplished by three features:

- a) The nozzle shaped openings, as illustrated below:



The opening (pink) has two sections 01 and 02. Section 01 is very large and reduces in size conically toward the other 02 of the opening directed toward the center point M, whereby the speed of the dust/air stream increases. This function is supported by the angled outer wall surface AF, which is very broad in the

region of the opening section 01 and becomes smaller in the direction of the section 02, whereby the dust/air stream in the opening section 02 increases.

b) The raised edge section 30 which prevents the dust/air stream from leaking out laterally.

c) The moldings 40.

The raised edge section 30 and the moldings 40 between the openings in combination with the cushion makes the construction of the grinding plate of the present invention particularly suited for fixing an abrasive disk, and differs from the prior art grinding plate that is assembled with permanently fixed abrasive elements. Thus, it is submitted that Lee does not disclose the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.



RW-174

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 3, 2007.

By: 
Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: January 3, 2007

dict.cc

Deutsch/Englisch-Übersetzung

Deutsch-Englisch-Übersetzung für: Absaugglocke

Absaugglocke

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Absaugglocke {f}

engin. suction bell

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